

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/710,379

Examiner

Kamran Afshar; 571-272-7796

Applicant(s)

KATZ, DANIEL A.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/13/06, 10/16/06 & 10/20/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-11, 13, 14 and 16-24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/16/2006 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Daniel Katz on 10/20/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Claims:

[c1] (currently amended) A communication system for determining the geographical location of roaming objects in a vicinity of a plurality of communication devices, comprising:

a) a communication network, consisting of at least a said plurality of ~~randomly or pseudo~~ ~~randomly deployed~~ communication devices, ~~each of which having~~ said plurality of communication devices configured to communicate ~~capability~~ with other communication devices over said communication network, and of establishing a short range wireless communication with other wireless devices in the vicinity of said plurality of communication devices, said communication network ~~being capable of~~ is configured for obtaining the geographical location of said plurality of communication devices and transmitting data representing said geographical location to a destination, over said communication network;

b) a wireless tag, attached to each of said roaming objects, being a wireless device, in which a unique data is stored, said tag ~~being capable of~~ is configured for communicating with one or more said plurality of communication devices ~~being randomly or pseudo-randomly deployed~~ via said short range and transmitting said unique data to said destination through said plurality of communication ~~devices~~ devices and over said communication network,

wherein said tag comprises:

a) a short-range wireless transceiver for communicating with said plurality of communication devices being in the vicinity of said tag;

b) a memory for storing the unique data; and

c) a control circuitry for controlling the communication between said tag and said communication device; and

c) a control center being, or linked to, said destination, for receiving said unique data from said tag and for using said unique data and the location of the plurality of communication devices, through which said unique data is transmitted, for ~~determining/displaying~~ determining, and displaying ~~or forwarding~~ the geographical location of said tag, wherein the control center communicates with the plurality of communication devices for the presence of tags in their vicinity, according to at least one of the following parameters: a tag's identification ; time at which said unique data is transmitted; a geographical region; identification of said plurality of communication devices and a trigger signal generated at the tag or input to the tag.

[c2] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, in which each said plurality of communication devices comprises:

a) a short-range wireless transceiver for communicating with one or more wireless tags ~~tag(s)~~ being in the vicinity of said plurality of communication devices;

b) a memory for storing multiple unique data transmissions from the same tag, and/or said unique data transmissions from different tags;

c) circuitry for transmitting said data to the destination, over the communication network; and

d) a control circuitry for controlling the communication between said plurality of communication devices and said tags and the transmission of said unique data over said communication network.

[c3] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, in which each said plurality of communication devices further comprises:

a) location determining circuitry for determining the geographical location of said communication devices; and

b) circuitry for transmitting data representing said location to the destination.

[c4] (Cancelled).

[c5] (original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the communication network is a cellular or mobile or wireless network.

[c6] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of communication devices are selected from the group: mobile telephones; cellular telephones; wireless telephones; portable computers; PDAs; WAN-LAN gateways or APs (Access Points); WAN-PAN gateways or APs; LAN-PAN gateways or APs.

[c7] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the communication between the tag and the plurality of communication devices complies with a communication standards selected from the group: Bluetooth; WiFi; WiMax; HomeRF.

[c8] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the data representing the location of the plurality of communication devices is determined either by the communication network or by the plurality of communication devices or by a combination thereof.

[c9] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the data representing the location of the plurality of communication devices or the data provided by the tag are affiliated into the control signals that are transmitted from said plurality of communication devices over the communication network.

[c10] (currently amended) A system according to claim 3, wherein the data representing the location of the plurality of communication device is determined by utilizing satellite signals

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received from a navigation system such as Global Positioning System (GPS) or Galileo or GLONASS.

[c11] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the communication between said tags and said plurality of communication devices is established using unlicensed frequency band.

[c12] (cancelled).

[c13] (currently amended) A system according to claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the time at which the unique data is transmitted to said plurality of communication devices, is recorded by the plurality of communication devices.

[c14] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein whenever the plurality of communication device receives a new data signal and its corresponding memory is full, the oldest data stored in said memory is overwritten by said new data.

[c15] (cancelled).

[c16] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the utilization of said plurality of communication devices for locating said tags does not require the subscriber permission or wherein a subscriber that owns or operates a said plurality of communication device permits utilizing said plurality of communication devices for locating said tags.

[c17] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the data representation of the location of said tag(s) is converted from geographic coordinates to a corresponding physical address.

[c18] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the initiation to ~~start~~ determine location of a said tag ~~location may~~ comes from a said tag and/or a said plurality of communication devices and/or a said control center, and/or an input to a said tag and/or an input to a said plurality of communication devices and/or an input to a said control center.

[c19] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the communication between a said tag and a said plurality of communication devices is enabled during a specific periods of time

and/or when a said plurality of communication devices and/or a said tag are part of a predetermined sub group.

[c20] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the location accuracy of the tag is refined by obtaining a distance and/or a direction information related to the relative position between the tag and the plurality of communication devices.

[c21] (original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the roaming object is selected from the following group: persons; animals; vehicles; goods; mailed/delivered items; weapons; ammunition.

[c22] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the location accuracy of the tag is refined by extrapolation, when the transmission of the unique data from the tag to the plurality of communication devices and the determination of the location of the plurality of communication devices are performed at different times.

[c23] (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the control center is a communication device.

[c24] (currently amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said tags and/or said plurality of communication devices relay/retransmit data that arrives from other tags and/or said plurality of communication devices.

[c25] (cancelled).

[c26](cancelled).

[c27] (cancelled).

[c28] (cancelled).

[c29] (cancelled).

[c30] (cancelled).

[c31] (cancelled).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. In view of the amended claims as discussed above in item 2, Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-14 and 16-24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: 1-3, 5-11, 13-14 and 16-24.

With respect to claim 1, the prior art of record fails to disclose singly or in combination or render obvious that establishing a short range wireless communication with other wireless devices in the vicinity of the plurality of communication devices, the communication network is configured for obtaining the geographical location of the plurality of communication devices and transmitting data representing the geographical location to a destination, over the communication network; b) a wireless tag, attached to each of the roaming objects, being a wireless device, in which a unique data is stored, the tag is configured for communicating with the plurality of communication devices via the short range and transmitting the unique data to the destination through the plurality of communication devices and over the communication network, wherein the tag comprises: a) a short-range wireless transceiver for communicating with the plurality of communication devices being in the vicinity of the tag; b) a memory for storing the unique data; and c) a control circuitry for controlling the communication between the tag and the communication device; and c) a control center being linked to the destination, for receiving the unique data from the tag and for using the unique data and the location of the plurality of communication devices, through which the unique data is transmitted, for determining and displaying the geographical location of tag, wherein the control center communicates with the plurality of communication devices for the presence of tags in their vicinity, according to at least one of the following parameters: a tag's identification ; time at which said unique data is transmitted; a geographical region; identification of the plurality of communication devices and a trigger signal generated at the tag or input to the tag.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Kamran Afshar whose telephone number is (571) 272-7796. The examiner can be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by the telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Feild, Joseph** can be reached @ (571) 272-4090. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300** for all communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Kamran Afshar


JOSEPH FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER